

1731



Docket No.: 50395-068

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#B/BM  
8/19-02

In re Application of

Toshiki TARU, et al.

Serial No.: 09/622,827

Group Art Unit: 1731

Filed: August 24, 2000

Examiner: S. Latimer

For: FURNACE AND METHOD FOR OPTICAL FIBER WIRE DRAWING

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

RECEIVED  
SEP 26 2002  
TC 1700 MAIL ROOM

The following Amendment and Remarks are submitted in response to the Office  
Action dated June 24, 2002.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2 as follows.

The gas passage 24a is formed between the inner tube 22 and the outer tube 23 arranged outside the same, and an inert gas is supplied from the gas supplying inlet 24 to the gas passage 24a, so as to blow the inert gas into the inside of the inner tube 22 from the [numeral] numerous gas blowing inlets 22a provided circumferentially and in the height direction on the wall surface of the inner tube 22. The inert gas is flowed inside the inner tube 22 and the muffle tube 28 to prevent oxidation deterioration of the muffle tube and the like, and when the temperature distribution of the inert gas by heating and